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FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5837
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0086
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J2 MIAMI FL

RUEHCV/USDAO CARACAS VE RUMIAAA/HQ USSOUTHCOM J5 MIAMI FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 001475

SIPDIS

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STATE FOR WHA/CCA AND WHA/CAR SOUTHCOM ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/04/2017

TAGS: ETRD ETTC PREL PINR PGOVCU CU XL SUBJECT: ST. VINCENT REVIEW FOR SUSPENSION OF TITLE III OF THE LIBERTAD ACT

REF: A. A) STATE 158768

¶B. B) BRIDGETOWN 1377

¶C. C) BRIDGETOWN 452

Classified By: PolOff Arend Zwartjes for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) The five questions in reftel A are answered below, in a Q and A format:

Investments

Q1 - What is the nature of investments (and names, if known) that host country businesses have in Cuba?

A1 - There are no St. Vincent and the Grenadines businesses known to have investments in Cuba.

Trade Agreements

 ${\tt Q2}$ - Are there any bilateral trade agreements between host country and Cuba?

A2 - Yes. St. Vincent and the Grenadines has active bilateral tax and investment treaties with Cuba. In addition, CARICOM has a trade agreement with Cuba that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has ratified.

Exchange Programs

- Q3 Are there any exchange programs between host country and Cuba, including but not limited to: scholarships for host country nationals to study in Cuba; Cuban-paid medical travel for host country nationals; and Cuban doctors working in host country?
- A3 Yes. St. Vincent and the Grenadines is the recipient of Cuban scholarships and Cuban-paid medical travel for St. Vincent and the Grenadines nationals in need of eye surgery. There is no wide-scale program to utilize Cuban doctors in the local health care system.

Democracy and Human Rights

- ${\tt Q4}$ ${\tt Has}$ the host country, in Post's opinion, worked to promote the advancement of democracy and human rights in Cuba?
- Q4 No. Vincent and the Grenadines has done nothing to advance democracy and human rights in Cuba, although PM Gonsalves recently claimed to Embassy Bridgetown that this is why they oppose the embargo (Ref B).

High-Level Visits

- Q5 Have there been any high-level diplomatic visits between Cuba and host country in the past six months?
- ${\tt A5}$ Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves traveled to Cuba in April 2007 for medical treatment (Ref C). HOWARD